

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Azadeh Khadem on 1/5/2012.

The application has been amended as follows.

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A Fibre Channel switch, comprising:  
a plurality of ports configured to receive and transmit a frame; and a fabric manager coupled to the plurality of ports to obtain the received frame and to provide a frame to be transmitted, the fabric manager configured to add information to the frame; the information including receive and transmit port identity, the switch identity, and measured transmit and receive rates of the port receiving the frame; to update a sequence total length value based on the amount information added to the frame to indicate where a next fabric manager should add information; and to provide the frame for transmission;  
wherein the measured transmit and receive rates of the port are determined from an amount of data respectively transmitted and received

by the port during a defined time period.

55. (Currently Amended) A method performed by a Fibre Channel switch, the method comprising:

receiving a frame;

determining measured transmit and receive rates of the port receiving the frame from the amount of data respectively transmitted and received by the port during a defined time period;

adding information to the frame, the information including receive and transmit port identity, the switch identity, and the measured transmit and receive rates of the port receiving the frame;

updating a sequence total length value based on the amount information added to the frame to indicate where a next fabric manager should add information; and

providing the frame to a port for transmission.

83. (Currently Amended) A switch, comprising:

a fabric manager configured to add information to a frame; the information including receive and transmit port identity, the switch identity, and measured transmit and receive rates of a port receiving the frame; to update a sequence total length value based on the amount information added to the frame to indicate where a next fabric manager should add

information; and to provide the frame for transmission; wherein the measured transmit and receive rates of the port are determined from an amount of data respectively transmitted and received by the port during a defined time period.

99. (Currently Amended) A method performed by a switch, the method comprising:

determining measured transmit and receive rates of a port receiving a frame from an amount of data respectively transmitted and received by the port during a defined time period;

adding information to the frame, the information including receive and transmit port identity, the switch identity, and the measured transmit and receive rates of the port receiving the frame;

updating a sequence total length value based on the amount information added to the frame to indicate where a next fabric manager should add information; and

providing the frame to a port for transmission.

115. (Currently Amended) A switch, comprising:

means for determining measured transmit and receive rates of a port receiving a frame from an amount of data respectively transmitted and received by the port during a defined time period;

means for adding information to the frame, the information including receive and transmit port identity, the switch identity, and the measured transmit and receive rates of the port receiving the frame; means for updating a sequence total length value based on the amount information added to the frame to indicate where a next fabric manager should add information; and means for providing the frame to a port for transmission.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MOHAMMAD ADHAMI whose telephone number is (571)272-8615. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on (571)272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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